

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been revised to eliminate multiple dependencies and to place the claims in more conventional U.S. patent format.

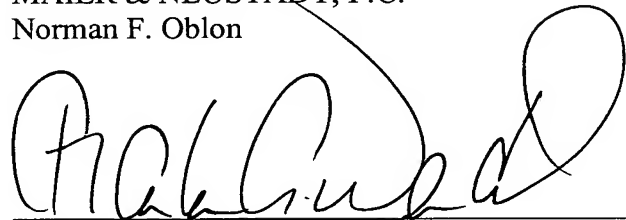
An early examination of claims 1-10 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Charles A. Wendel, is written over a horizontal line.

Charles A. Wendel
Registration No. 24,453

NFO:CAW\rlc